

NEWS CLIPS

FLIGHT OFFERS \$25 ONE-TIME, ONE-WAY TRIP TO NEW YORK

For one flight only, getting to New York may be cheaper than a cab ride.

On Sept. 4, Tower Air, a 14-year-old international airline based in New York, plans to sell \$25 one-way tickets on its inaugural flight from Las Vegas to New York's JFK International Airport. A round-trip ticket incorporating the \$25 fare will be available for \$184 plus a PFC of \$6. Tower Air's fleet of 17 planes consists entirely of Boeing 747s, making it the only scheduled airline to fly 747s to Las Vegas from New York. All Tower Air flights to Las Vegas will operate during prime daylight hours, departing Kennedy on Thursdays and Sundays at 10:00 a.m., arriving in Las Vegas at 12:15 p.m. The non-stop return flights are also on Thursdays and Sundays, departing Las Vegas at 2:45 p.m. and arriving at Kennedy at 10:30 p.m.



AGRICULTURE COMMISSION TO EXAMINE SMALL/BLACK FARMS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced the formation of a national commission to study the problems of small farmers and recommend ways to help them. "We must carefully look at the barriers facing small farms and seek solutions to those problems. This is the charge I have given to the men and women who will serve on this commission," said Dan Glickman, secretary of Agriculture, in making the announcement. The commission will also look at ways in which the USDA can ensure that small farms are treated fairly. According to published reports and testimony during civil rights listening sessions conducted by the USDA last winter, African-Americans, often small farmers, are losing their land at a rate three times higher than farmers overall and are frequently victims of discriminatory practices.

RACE-BASED HEALTH RESEARCH CAN BE UNRELIABLE, REPORT SAYS

Health care research based on racial and ethnic differences can lead to unreliable and inaccurate data, according to an article by doctors at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Although data has been collected comparing health care in racial and ethnic groups, no standard, reliable definition of race and ethnicity exist regarding health care research, say the authors of "The Roles of Race and Socioeconomic Factors in Health Services Research." Doctors Kevin A. Shulman, Elizabeth Rubenstein, Francis D. Chesley and John M. Eisenberg, say that because race can incorporate several factors, including biological, social and cultural characteristics, health services researchers should rather focus on non-racial, socioeconomic characteristics that they say are more useful in developing policy.

STUDY SCRUTINIZES MEDIA'S PORTRAYAL OF BLACKS

NEW HAVEN, Conn. - Though most of the nation's poor are white, a Yale University study found that the media are twice as likely to use pictures of blacks to illustrate stories on poverty. The study, by assistant political science professor Martin Gilens, reported that news magazines pictured blacks 62 percent of the time in stories on poverty, though statistics show only 29 percent of black Americans live below the poverty line. The gap was wider for television news where blacks were tied to 65 percent of the stories about poverty. Gilens said the portrayals perpetuate stereotypes about race and fuel contempt among whites about the welfare system.

ARMY OFFICER: ZIMBABWE CAN CLEAR LAND MINES IN 5 YEARS

VICTORIA FALLS, Zimbabwe - A senior Zimbabwean army officer said the country's army needs more than 150 million Zimdollars (\$13.6 million U.S. dollars) and five years to clear hundreds of thousands of land mines scattered along the country's borders. The officer, Col. Sibangumuzi Khumalo, the director of engineering corps, said the money would be used for buying mine clearing and camping equipment and logistics to replace the current outdated and dilapidated machinery. Hundreds of people and animals in the country are maimed or killed annually by the estimated two million mines, still plastered around the borders, according to officials. They were planted by the Rhodesian army at the height of the liberation war to control armed incursions by freedom fighters.

Supreme Court to decide task force's fate

By Damon Hodge
Sentinel-Voice

The Nevada Supreme Court will decide next month the fate of a task force created to rid the state's judicial system of racial and economic bias.

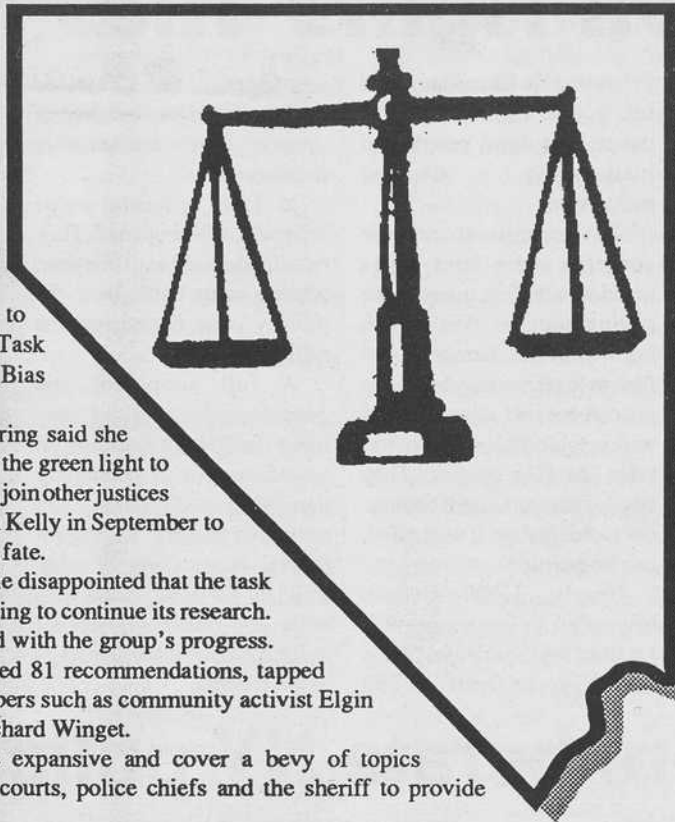
Last Thursday, the court postponed a decision on whether to spend \$290,000 to continue the mission of the Task Force on Racial and Economic Bias in the Justice System.

Chief Justice Miriam Shearing said she believes the task force will get the green light to continue its work. Shearing will join other justices and task force chairman Kevin Kelly in September to rule on the 5-year-old group's fate.

Shearing said she was a little disappointed that the task force asked for additional funding to continue its research. But, she said, she was satisfied with the group's progress.

In June the task force issued 81 recommendations, tapped from its cross-section of members such as community activist Elgin Simpson and Undersheriff Richard Winget.

The recommendations are expansive and cover a bevy of topics including: requiring juvenile courts, police chiefs and the sheriff to provide



annual demographic reports, to formally charging all criminal defendants within 48 hours of arrest whenever possible, to continuing to update sensitivity/cultural training for all police academy recruits and officers, including all administrators.

Kelly couldn't be reached for comment on the story. He reportedly has footed most of the bill for the task force's operation. He said the group needs the money so it can begin to implement its recommendations.

The task force was created in response to the 1992 civil unrest sparked by the acquittal of four white Los Angeles Police Department officers in the videotaped beating of black motorist Rodney King.

Commission chairwoman calls meetings

By John T. Stephens
Sentinel-Voice

Clark County Commission Chairwoman Yvonne Atkinson-Gates plans two town hall meetings she says will educate citizens about the proposed quarter-cent sales tax and will involve discussions about growth in Clark County.

"The purpose of the meetings is to get feedback from the constituents on planning, development and growth in this community," Atkinson-Gates said recently during a break in a board meeting. She represents District D.

The Monday, Aug. 25 meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. inside the Grand Canyon

Conference Room at the North Las Vegas Airport, 2730 N. Airport Drive. At 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 27, the commissioner will host a meeting at the Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway.

This year's legislature gave the commission the OK to implement a quarter-cent sales tax to pay a part of the estimated \$2.9 billion needed for water and sewer system improvements. Southern Nevada has only one pipeline or "straw" bringing water to the valley from Lake Mead. The new funds, which would yield \$1.8 million, would create a second pipeline.

Atkinson-Gates said the

proposed tax increase makes sense. "The water delivery system, which was built over 30 years ago, was designed for the needs of a smaller community," Atkinson-Gates said.

Not everyone agrees.

According to a collaborative survey by KLAS-TV Channel 8 and the Las Vegas Review-Journal, 95 percent of the people polled want an opportunity to vote on the tax in the 1998 election. And 99

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